

Release A CDR RID Report

Date Last Modified 10/31/95

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Document MSS-Accountability Management

RID ID	CDR	41
Review	SDPS/CSMS	
Originator Ref	III-cdr-mss-1	
Priority	2	

Section YS2

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Figure Table

Category Name DAAC Operations

Actionee ECS

Sub Category

Subject Dissemination of User Passwords

Description of Problem or Suggestion:

Presentation did not adequately address user services and operations needs for access to user order information.

In the interest of extensibility, evolvability, and DAAC autonomy, the mechanism for providing a user with a password should be site-configurable, and set by DAAC operations policy. The system (or procedures) should support multiple dissemination mechanisms.

The proposed procedure (use of U.S. Mail) is not responsive enough, and is too limiting. If, for example, new or initial passwords are set to expire at/on first use, support of a variety of less secure mechanisms should not be a serious security issue.

Originator's Recommendation

Support a variety of password dissemination mechanisms, such as phone, FAX, postal mail, or hand delivery pickup. The delivery method may change depending on the user's location. The user could even choose a preferred method at the time the account request is entered.

Design should allow for policy neutral notification for user passwords. Design should allow for the possibility for users to register themselves. For example, as they currently do in V0. If there are security/design reasons why this is not possible, then these reasons need to be adequately explained and presented.

GSFC Response by:

GSFC Response Date

HAIS Response by: Gary Forman

HAIS Schedule 10/25/95

HAIS R. E. Gary Forman

HAIS Response Date 10/25/95

ECS will provide multiple capabilities for dissemination of passwords to new users of the ECS. The new password, assigned at the time the user account is created will be for one-time use only and the user will be prompted to change the password at first logon. At a minimum the following dissemination methods will be provided:

- 1) US Mail
- 2) Set a temporary password that expires on first use and is distributed via Email
- 3) Pickup by the user
- 4) Telephone by user services

The capabilities provided will be policy neutral and will accommodate defaults which can be configured by each individual DAAC. It should be noted that any method other than US Mail does introduce an increased level of risk for password interception.

The current Release A design requires manual action to create the user account, after review and approval by the appropriate DAAC staff and therefore would not accommodate non-monitored self registration. The primary reason for not supporting self registration is to allow the operations staff at the DAAC to control user privileges and to authorize the user's access to controlled DAAC services. Guest user services are available for interested users until such time as they become registered users.

Status Closed

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***** Attachment if any *****

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